

TROCHILUS MINIMUS.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Rostrum subulato-filiforme, apice tubulato, capite longius: Mandibula superior vaginans inferiorem.

Lingua filiformis, filis duobus coalitis tubulosa.

Pedes ambulatorii.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 189.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

TROCHILUS rectirostris fusco-virescens, subtus albidus, rectricibus lateralibus margine exteriori albis.

TROCHILUS MINIMUS. T. rectirostris, rectricibus lateralibus margine exteriori albis, corpore viridi nitente subtus albido.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 193.

Guainumbi minor corpore toto cinereo.

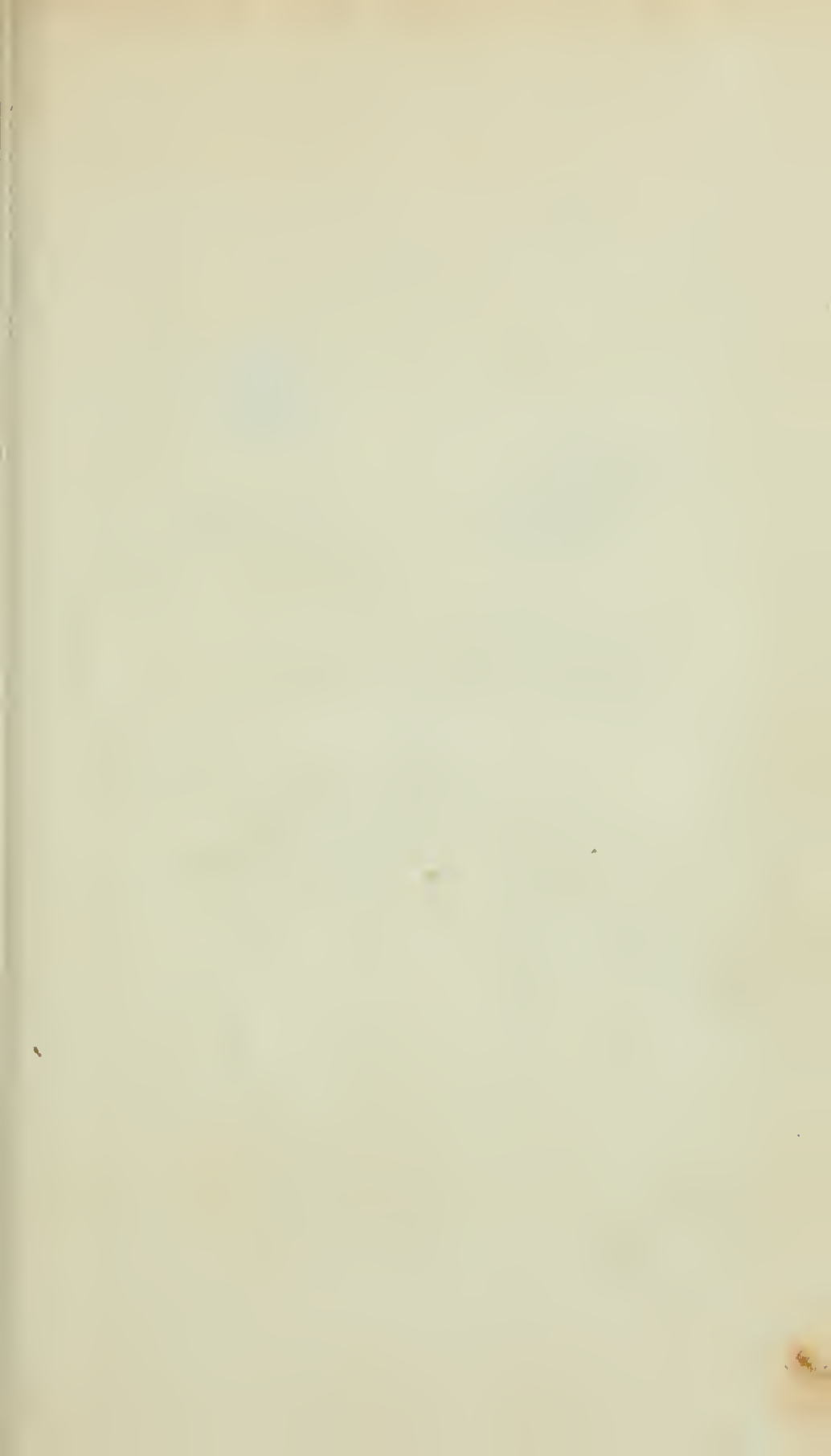
Raj. syn. p. 83.

Perpusillum hoc Naturæ miraculum irradiat nullus colorum variorum splendor, quo plurimo gaudet fere reliquum genus. Color ei generalis virescit quasi sub-aureo fuscus, dorso humerisque paulo lucidioribus.

M

bus.

bus. Alæ caudaque e purpureo fusca. Corpus inferius fere albet. Minus est saturati nitoris feminae quam mari. Avium omnium minimus est Trochilus de quo jam loquimur, longus scilicet ab apice rostri ad extremum caudæ unciam cum quadrante. In plurimis Americæ australis regionibus, interdum etiam in insula Jamaica conspicitur.





R.M.

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THE
LEAST HUMMING-BIRD.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill slender, tubular, the upper mandible sheathing the lower.

Tongue very long, extensile; formed of two conjoined cylindric tubes.

Toes three forward, one backward.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

Brownish - green strait - billed HUMMING-BIRD, whitish beneath, with the exterior tail-feathers white on the outside.

LEAST HUMMING-BIRD.

Edw. pl. 105.

Le plus petit Oiseau-Mouche.

Pl. Enl. 276.

This little miracle of Nature is not distinguished by the peculiar splendor and variety of colour so conspicuous in many others of the genus, its general tinge being an obscurely gilded greenish brown above, and whitish beneath: the wings and tail have a cast of purplish brown: the colour of the

female is more obscure than that of the male: the usual length of this species is about an inch and quarter from the tip of the bill to the end of the tail, being by far the least of all birds. It is a native of many parts of South America, and is sometimes found in the island of Jamaica.